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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/500,094 | 02/08/2000 | Russel D. Leatherman | 2400-505 | 2120 |
| 27820 | 7590 | 12/01/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| WITHROW & TERRANOVA, P.L.L.C. P.O. BOX 1287 CARY, NC 27512 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Response to Applicant's Amendment

The amendment filed on Sept. 16, 2004 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): the Applicant's reply does not comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.111 (b) because it does not include arguments pointing out specific distinctions believed to render the added new claim(s) 56-58 are patentable over the applied reference(s). See 37 C.F.R. 1.111(b). Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given a time period of **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. Extensions of this time period maybe granted under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

This action is **NON-FINAL**. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven R. Wasylchak whose telephone number is (703) 308-2848. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin, can be reached at (703) 308-1065. The fax number for Art Unit 3624 is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

Steven Wasylchak
11/22/04
sw

Karen T. Miller
VINCENT MILLIN
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